

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated June 8, 2005, the Examiner required election under 35 U.S.C. §121 of one of the following species:

First Species: Claims 1-6, depicted in Figs. 2-5, 13 and 15; or

Second Species: Claims 7-10, depicted in Figs. 6-8, 14 and 16.

Applicant respectfully elects, with traverse, the Second Species, i.e., Figs. 6-8, 14 and 16, corresponding to Claims 7-10, for prosecution on the merits. Figs. 9-12 and 17-20 have not been included in the species election requirement. However, it is respectfully submitted that Figs. 12, 18 and 20 should be included in the Second Species. Fig. 12 shows the container in which the vacuum valve is used, Fig. 18 shows an alternate embodiment of the valve, and Fig. 20 shows the indicator ring 160 of Fig. 6.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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